

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, DECEMBER 3, 1941

The Board of Public Works met on December 3, 1941, in the offices of the Board, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, Maryland

There were present:

Herbert R. O'Connor, Governor
J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer

Mr. James G. Rennie, Chief of the Budget Bureau, attended in the absence of Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement.

Attorney General William C. Walsh attended the meeting at the request of the Board.

SPRING GROVE STATE HOSPITAL:

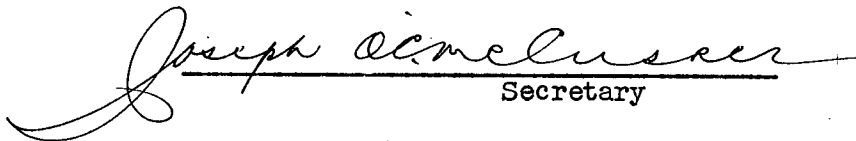
Dr. George H. Preston, Commissioner of the Board of Mental Hygiene, Dr. Silas W. Weltmer, Superintendent of Spring Grove State Hospital, and Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins, architect, appeared before the Board and related the difficulties they were experiencing with the contractor Thomas Hicks & Sons, Inc. in getting work started on the construction of a new dormitory building at Spring Grove State Hospital for which a contract was awarded to the contractor in July 1941.

It was stated that the contractor claimed they were unable to proceed with the work unless certain allowances were made - this due to the fact that the delay was occasioned by the shortage of steel products and other construction materials, and increased costs by sub-contractors, or unless the State was willing to take care of some of the additional expense. It was suggested that there be certain omissions from the contract: painting, providing of a road, furnishing of screens, and that an allowance be made from the Contingent Fund reserved out of the appropriation for the construction work -- all of these items representing approximately \$5,771.00.

The matter was discussed fully, the Attorney General considering the legal aspects involved. As a result of the discussion it was agreed that the Attorney General would look into the legal situation; the architect would confer with the contractor and obtain from him, if possible, a statement showing the estimated costs at the time of preparation of his bid for the work, together with changes which have become necessary in these original estimates because of defense conditions; and the architect would also take up with the second low bidder the question of whether that bidder would be willing, at this time, to accept a contract for the work on the basis of his original bid.

The Board agreed to meet and give the matter further consideration upon the information being obtained and submitted to the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Secretary